

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer readable medium including instructions executable by a processor based device useable by a community of users, said computer readable medium comprising:

5 code for registering a plurality of members of said community with said device, wherein registering a member includes storing identifying information relating to the member;

code for querying a user for stored identifying information;

code for receiving information relating to at least one member of said community of users; and

code for providing information on a display panel of said processor based device, wherein at least a portion of said information provided is a subset of an array of information comprised of a plurality of subsets, wherein each subset is associated with a particular member of said community, and wherein said subset provided depends upon identifying information provided by said user.

2. The computer readable medium of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said information provided relates to more than one member of said community.

3. The computer readable medium of claim 2 wherein said information relating to more than one member of said community includes a first quantum of information relating to a member of said community and a second quantum of information relating to another member of said community.

4. The computer readable medium of claim 1 wherein said information provided on said display panel includes appointment information.

25 5. The computer readable medium of claim 1 wherein said subset includes
messages information.

 6. The computer readable medium of claim 5 wherein said messages
information includes electronic mail.

30 7. The computer readable medium of claim 1 wherein said information provided
on said display panel includes shopping information.

 8. The computer readable medium of claim 1 wherein said code for receiving
information includes code for receiving information from a scanning device.

35 9. The computer readable medium of claim 1 wherein said processor based
device includes a coupling mechanism for securing the processor based device to an
appliance.

10. A community interface system comprising:

portable processor based device including

display panel,

means for registering with said device a plurality of members of a community of users of said device, wherein registering a member includes storing identifying information relating to the member,

means for querying a user for stored identifying information,

means for receiving information relating to at least one member of said community of users, and

means for providing information on said display panel of said portable processor based device, wherein at least a portion of said information provided is a subset of an array of information comprised of a plurality of subsets, wherein each subset is associated with a particular member of said community, and wherein said subset provided depends upon identifying information provided by said user.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein at least a portion of said information provided relates to more than one member of said community.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein said information relating to more than one member of said community includes a first quantum of information relating to a member of said community and a second quantum of information relating to another member of said community.

13. The system of claim 10 wherein said portable processor based device further comprises means for accessing executable code stored on a memory module, said executable code facilitating said receiving of said information and said providing of said information.

14. The system of claim 10 wherein said system includes a scanning device.

15. The system of claim 10 wherein said system is operable to be communicatively coupled to a second processor based device so as to form a network.

16. The system of 10 wherein said device includes means for coupling to an appliance.

17. The system of claim 10 wherein said device includes means for outputting audio signals to an audio device.

18. A method for providing a community interface comprising:

70 registering with a processor based device a plurality of members of a community of users of said device, wherein registering a member includes storing identifying information relating to the member;

querying a user for stored identifying information;

receiving information relating to at least one member of said community of users of said processor based device; and

providing information on a display panel of said processor based device, wherein at least a portion of said information provided is a subset of an array of information comprised of a plurality of subsets, wherein each subset is associated with a particular member of said community, and wherein said subset provided depends upon identifying information provided by said user.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein at least a portion of said information provided relates to more than one member of said community.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein said receiving information includes receiving information from a scanning device.